

## **Are the RCs enough?**

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Want real views from the ground on policies? Allow an “alternative residents’ committee” system to supplement the work of existing Residents’ Committees (RCs), said Opposition politician Jimmy Lee at the Institute of Policy Studies forum yesterday.

After the recent elections, questions have been raised on whether grassroots activists had fully reflected dissatisfaction and feedback from residents to their Members of Parliament. Such criticism of activists, Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong said last month, was “unfair”.

Mr Jimmy Lee said that while he had friends who were RC leaders with a genuine spirit to serve, “the RC system has failed in many respects, let’s not kid ourselves”.

He suggested a review of the system and the way RC leaders are rewarded.

Hougang MP Yaw Shin Leong said he teased his party’s grassroots activists that they would never get their PBMs or BBMs (public service awards). Activists who were in it purely to serve the people were “very encouraging”, he added.